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IDEA-1051-69

Copy 6 of 6

16 December 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy for Operations, OSA

SUBJECT : ECP-U-2R-45 on Ejection Seat Headrest Height

REFERENCES : A. Memo for AMS dated 3 Nov 69; Idea-0857-69

B. Memo for D/O/OSA dated 20 Oct 69;
Idea-0914-69

C. Letter addressed to [] from
[] dated 17 Nov 69

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1. Request your concurrence to proceed with ECP-U-2R-45.

2. In response to Ref. A, LAC has answered the questions proposed in paragraph 1.a. The existing system is safe as is, with the exception of one mission pilot whose body build falls above the 95 percentile. With respect to the walk-around cushion and the additional two inches height with it, the proposed-seat adapters will allow for this modification and headrest clearance in all but the one pilot as mentioned above. It should be noted that the proposed modification not only includes a sleeping bag but also a tree-lowering device, an item of survival equipment already well proven in SEA.

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3. Discussions with [] Ref. A, paragraph 2, indicate that Customer No. 2 is not concerned with a sleeping bag, however, a tree-lowering device is considered essential. Additionally, if Customer No. 2 pilots exceed the 95%, they, too, could be in jeopardy if egress through the canopy becomes necessary.

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GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

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4. If Operations feel the subject ECP is too costly at this time or that the Life-Support Equipment discussed above is not essential, then the subject ECP should be disapproved. It should be pointed out by the Life Support Officer, however, that if such an ejection through the canopy becomes necessary, it very well may be fatal in the tall man. Also, as discussed earlier with [redacted] dry-cold protection is grossly lacking in the Full-Pressure Suit and to save a downed crewmember in temperatures approximating 0° F, recovery will have to be made in a matter of hours.

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[redacted]

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MAJOR USAF BSC
AMS/OSA

Attachments
Refs A, B & C

AMS/OSA [redacted] em [redacted]

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